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research highlights

Single-ion probe

Calcium ion measures field variation with nanoscale resolution (*Nature*, 1 November 2001)



Alumina up close

Atomic force microscopy conquers the world of insulating oxides (*Nature*, 1 November 2001)



Ceramics: the next generation

New ceramics could be the way forward for 3G mobile phone systems (*Appl. Phys. Lett.*, 29 October 2001)



Physics in biology: picking potassium

X-ray data reveal how K⁺ ions move between neurons (*Nature*, 1 November 2001)



More highlights...

lookingback...

Classic physics papers from *Nature's* archive
highlighting this week's first discovery or explanation

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Stimulating and informative reading from *Nature's* 'magazine' sections

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Welcome to the physics portal

Browse *Nature's* recent archive of physics research and comment, collected by subfield

From *Nature*, 1 November 2001

Atomic-bomb experts interrogated over Taliban links

Chance encounter hints at planetary origins

Legal provision for electronic eavesdropping ignites debate

Germany warned over threat posed by nuclear reactor

Middle Eastern promise as synchrotron wins approval

NASA in orbit over Mars Odyssey success

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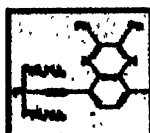
Going critical

A new class of quantum phase transition
(*Nature*, 25 October 2001)



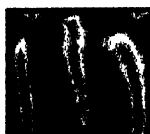
Bright future for polymer LEDs

New light shed on exciton statistics
(*Nature*, 25 October 2001)



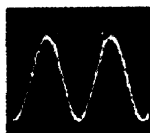
Giving the electrons a ring

Quantum rings reveal regular electron motion
(*Nature*, 25 October 2001)



Magneto-optics with a twist

Magnetochiral anisotropy comes clean
(*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 15 October 2001)



More highlights...

From *Nature*, 25 October 2001

Storm clouds gather over science as war build-up accelerates

Fallout from terrorism hits summits on developing world

Committee paves way for Marburger confirmation

Grants to help women climb academic ladder

Proposed scheme will scrutinize student supervisors

NASA head bows out after a record run

opinion: Europe needs to pull its weight in research

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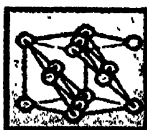
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Magnetic carbon

Polymerized C_{60} is the first metal-free room-temperature ferromagnet (*Nature*, 18 October 2001)

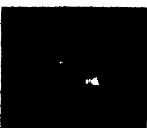


Nucleation is hard to do

Some colloids may never crystallize (*Nature*, 18 October 2001)

Magnetism in space

Magnetic flux from black holes may affect galaxy formation (*Astrophys. J.*, 10 October 2001)



Physics in biology: spring-loaded DNA

Pressure-packed DNA may make virus infection easier (*Nature*, 18 October 2001)



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Classic physics papers from *Nature's* archive. Featuring this week: X-ray crystallography — the first image of myoglobin

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From *Nature*, 18 October 2001

opinion: Anti-terrorist agendas

Scientific leaders respond to US government's call to arms

Bioweapons treaty under threat

Nuclear power plants go offline amid terrorist fears

CERN's head rejects mismanagement claims

US researchers benefit from data-crunching dynamo

Computer chat lines fail to seduce judges

opinion: Top-heavy and out of touch? Government science in Japan

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researchhighlights

Nobel Prize 2001: Cornell, Ketterle and Wieman

"...for the achievement of Bose-Einstein condensation in dilute gases of alkali atoms"
(*Nobel Foundation*, 9 October 2001)



Pushing ahead

Macroscopic quantum tunnelling in a disordered ferromagnet
(*Nature*, 11 October 2001)



Cool future for semiconductors

Thin-film thermocouples achieve best-ever efficiency
(*Nature*, 11 October 2001)



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Classic physics papers from *Nature*'s archive. Reprinted this week: The neutron hypothesis

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From *Nature*, 11 October 2001

Cool atoms make physics prize matter

CERN management faulted over sudden budget crisis
opinion: 'Big science' and public trust

Ireland weighs up options to buy into European research

Volunteers flock to donate computer time

Spain's postdoc plan takes off

US universities body backs tighter rules on conflict of interest

No contest over new Max Planck Society head

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